

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine



Who we are

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine – in line with its mandate – plans, implements and monitors projects across the politico-military, economic and environmental, and human dimensions of security, engaging both the governmental and non-governmental bodies of Ukraine.

Since 2016, the OSCE Project Co-ordinator has pursued four strategic objectives:

- Supporting government reforms that strengthen the implementation of Ukraine's OSCE commitments;
- Promoting dialogue among various sectors of society;
- Assisting in the OSCE's overall response to the impact of the crisis in and around Ukraine;
- Co-ordinating its programming and project activity in accordance with the OSCE's overall mission and aligning its objectives with other OSCE institutions.

All projects are developed at the request of Ukrainian government and its partners and implemented following the approval from the country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

History

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine was established by the OSCE Permanent Council on 1 June 1999.

The Project Co-ordinator replaced the OSCE Mission to Ukraine, which functioned between 1994 and 1999.



Ukrainian dialogue facilitators acquire international expertise and exchange information about local best practices at an OSCE-organized training course.



OSCE-supported campaigns help inform Ukrainians of the risks of human trafficking as well as how to deal with domestic violence.

What we do

In line with the OSCE's concept of comprehensive security, the Co-ordinator's projects cover a range of activities with a focus on democratization and good governance; the rule of law and human rights; human security; and economic, environmental, and politico-military issues

Democratization and good governance

Functioning democratic institutions are important in times of crisis. To improve the conduct of **elections**, the Co-ordinator trains election commissioners, supports the reform process in this area and runs awareness-raising campaigns on voters' rights. To ensure a balance between **media freedoms** and security concerns, the Co-ordinator's projects focus on the safety of journalists, media ethics and self-regulation, and reforms to the ownership of state and municipal media. The Co-ordinator supports enhancing the government's

co-operation with **civil society** and encouraging greater public funding for civic initiatives.

The Co-ordinator hosts **dialogue** events to improve ties between the government and conflict-affected communities. It helps the government to engage Ukrainians in a dialogue on reforms and trains mediators and dialogue facilitators.

Rule of law and human rights

As part of its support to reform efforts, the Co-ordinator works to develop legislation and legal practices that conform to the OSCE commitments on

judicial independence and integrity. The Co-ordinator focuses on strengthening the Constitutional Court's ability to uphold the rule of law and on providing communication channels between the legal community, stakeholders and national decision-makers.

As well as providing expertise in the Supreme Court's formation and in the improvement of judicial education and evaluation, the Co-ordinator is also helping to launch a private bailiffs system.

The Co-ordinator contributes to **criminal justice reform** by raising awareness of human rights-oriented approaches among security and law enforcement agencies. Jointly with the Ombudsman and civic activists, the Co-ordinator works on developing a nationwide monitoring system to prevent torture and ill treatment in detention facilities, and supports the monitoring of trials.

The Co-ordinator promotes legal and human rights education reforms through policy-level support and developing educational standards and courses.

Human security

In **combating human trafficking and gender-based violence**, the Co-ordinator provides legislative support and strengthens prevention and prosecution capacities, including in the area of IT-facilitated trafficking. The Co-ordinator helps develop mechanisms to assist victims, and works with civil society to rehabilitate victims and establish corrective work programmes for domestic violence perpetrators.

To support **police reform**, the Co-ordinator aids the nationwide process of selecting, testing and training of officers, notably for patrol, neighbourhood, anti-human trafficking and cyber police units.

In response to the conflict-related challenges, the Co-ordinator assists in developing legislation to help displaced persons, ex-combatants and their families; promotes the Women, Peace and Security agenda; and produces tools to support psychological rehabilitation.



Practical exercises organized by the OSCE Project Co-ordinator help journalists prepare for the dangers of working in the conflict areas.



The first group of cyberpolice officers celebrate graduation from a training course developed by the OSCE Project Co-ordinator.

What we do

(continued)

Economic, environmental and politico-military issues

The Co-ordinator promotes responsible governance through the **digitization of administrative services**, and works with the authorities to **combat money laundering** and the **financing of terrorism** by supporting the implementation of a national action plan.

The Co-ordinator fosters the democratic control of armed forces based on best practices. In view of the conflict, the Co-

ordinator assesses the scope of **environmental threats** caused by military activities in the east of the country to develop environmental rehabilitation strategies, builds the **humanitarian demining** potential of the national authorities and assists in developing legislation to regulate mine action, establish standards, and introduce licensing for demining personnel. The Co-ordinator also focuses on improving the regulatory framework for **chemical safety and security** and emergency responses.



Ukraine's deminers use protective equipment provided by the OSCE Project Co-ordinator to clear conflict-affected areas of explosive remnants of war.

Facts and figures

(as of July 2017)

Head of Mission



Ambassador Vaidotas Verba of Lithuania is the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine as of September 2014.

Staffing



77 posts, made up of three core international and 72 local staff. The personnel are based in Kyiv and are comprised of 48 females and 29 males.



3,598,800 Euros

In addition, the Co-ordinator also administers extra-budgetary funds provided by OSCE participating States for specific projects.

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